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ABSTRACT

The violent crime rate among American Indians is twice that of the United States as a whole. Tribal communities are also beset by high rates of domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, alcohol abuse, and gang involvement. Given such factors, it is not surprising that tribal youth are exposed to multiple risk factors for delinquency. Indeed, while the violent crime rate for U.S. youth has steadily declined over the past several years, the rate of violent juvenile crime in tribal communities continues to grow. Risk factors for delinquency for the nearly 2 million American Indians who live on or near tribal lands are compounded by a lack of social services. Tribal communities are challenged by inadequate resources for their juvenile justice systems, resulting in insufficient training of law enforcement and other justice personnel and a dearth of programs that comprehensively combat juvenile delinquency through appropriate prevention, intervention, and sanction activities. This Bulletin describes the efforts of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) to assist tribal communities through such initiatives as the Tribal Youth Program, the Tribal Youth Program Mental Health Project, the Comprehensive Indian Resources for Community and Law Enforcement (CIRCLE) Project, training and technical assistance, and research and evaluation. It is hoped that OJJDP's tribal youth initiatives will help build a better future for American Indian and Alaska Native youth and their families. (Contains 10 references.) (Author)

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Juvenile Justice Bulletin, May 2003

Kay McKinney

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Office of Justice Programs
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Office of Justice Programs
Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

OJJDP
J. Robert Flores, Administrator
May 2003
JUVENILE JUSTICE BULLETIN

OJJDP's Tribal Youth Initiatives

Kay McKinney

Tribal communities in the United States face formidable challenges. Although the difficulties that afflict American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) communities are not necessarily unique—violence, gangs, and drugs plague many communities nationwide—these problems are especially pervasive among tribal populations. Tribal communities experience disproportionately high levels of violent victimization, intimate partner violence, child abuse and neglect, youth gang involvement, and co-occurrence of alcohol use and offending. Of particular concern to AI/AN tribes[1] and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) is the increasing number of violent crimes being committed by juveniles in many tribal communities. Although the rates of juvenile violent crime have declined throughout the United States for several years,[2] juvenile crime continues to increase in Indian country. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics' Special Report *Violent Victimization and Race, 1993–98* (Rennison, 2001), American Indians experience violent crime at a rate twice that of the general population.

Tribal youth are exposed to a variety of risk factors that increase their chances of becoming involved in delinquency and violent offending—a trend that is compounded by tribal communities' lack of available resources for families and youth and for the social services and law enforcement agencies that serve them. Many of the 1.9 million American Indians living on or near Indian lands lack sufficient law enforcement services (Office of the Associate Attorney General, 1999). Indian communities face chronic underfunding for their justice systems, lack access to meaningful training for law enforcement and justice personnel, and lack comprehensive programs that focus on preventing juvenile delinquency, providing intervention services, and imposing appropriate sanctions. OJJDP seeks to address these problems by enhancing Indian country law enforcement and improving the quality of life in tribal communities.

The Tribal Youth Program Manager represents OJJDP in a variety of interagency work groups that provide a forum for coordinating and sharing information on programs, available grants and funds, and data collection systems. This Manager actively participates in the following:

- Federal Interagency Work Group on Alcohol and Substance Abuse, administered by the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI), with participants from the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS); Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, HHS; Indian Health Service, HHS;

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A Message From OJJDP

The violent crime rate among American Indians is twice that of the United States as a whole. Tribal communities are also beset by high rates of domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, alcohol abuse, and gang involvement. Given such factors, it is not surprising that tribal youth are exposed to multiple risk factors for delinquency. Indeed, while the violent crime rate for U.S. youth has steadily declined over the past several years, the rate of violent juvenile crime in tribal communities continues to grow.

Risk factors for delinquency for the nearly 2 million American Indians who live on or near tribal lands are compounded by a lack of social services. Tribal communities are challenged by inadequate resources for their juvenile justice systems, resulting in insufficient training of law enforcement and other justice personnel and a dearth of programs that comprehensively combat juvenile delinquency through appropriate prevention, intervention, and sanction activities.

This Bulletin describes the efforts of OJJDP to assist tribal communities through such initiatives as the Tribal Youth Program, the Tribal Youth Program Mental Health Project, the Comprehensive Indian Resources for Community and Law Enforcement (CIRCLE) Project, training and technical assistance, and research and evaluation.

It is hoped that OJJDP's tribal youth initiatives will help build a better future for American Indian and Alaska Native youth and their families.

Bureau of Indian Affairs-Law Enforcement, Department of Safety, DOI; Office of National Drug Control Policy; and Department of Housing and Urban Development.

- Mental Health Initiative Work Group, with participants from HHS, DOI, the Department of Education, and the Department of Justice (DOJ).
- Several DOJ intraagency projects shared with the Office on Violence Against Women, Office for Victims of Crime, Corrections Program Office, Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, Bureau of Justice Assistance, and Tribal Courts.

Since fiscal year (FY) 1999, OJJDP has awarded 161 grants to tribes throughout the Nation to improve tribal juvenile justice systems and develop and implement culturally sensitive delinquency prevention programs, alcohol and substance abuse prevention programs, and interventions for court-involved tribal youth.

OJJDP's commitment to preventing and reducing juvenile crime in AI/AN communities and improving tribal juvenile justice systems is reflected by its continued support of five broad program areas designed to help tribes address juvenile crime:

- OJJDP's Tribal Youth Program (TYP) provides funds directly to tribal communities to develop programs that prevent and control juvenile delinquency, reduce violent crime, and improve tribal juvenile justice systems.
- OJJDP supports the TYP Mental Health Project, which provides diagnostic and treatment services to AI/AN youth involved in, or at risk of becoming involved in, tribal and/or State juvenile justice systems.
- The Comprehensive Indian Resources for Community and Law Enforcement (CIRCLE) Project is a federal initiative that helps tribal communities develop comprehensive programs to address crime, violence, and substance abuse.
- OJJDP provides training and technical assistance to TYP grantees and other tribal communities to improve their responses to youth crime, violence, and victimization.
- OJJDP funds several research and evaluation activities that focus on juvenile justice problems in tribal communities.

TYP: Examples of Grantee Activities

- The Navajo Nation, Window Rock, AZ, through its Haznojhi Youth Diversion Project, is incorporating traditional and western education and therapy in an intensive 3-week diversion program for court-involved youth and their families. Participants receive information and training on topics such as communication, drug and alcohol abuse, juvenile crime and its consequences, the impact of crime on victims and the community, and the Navajo view of offenses against the community.
- The Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians, Suttons Bay, MI, is using a cultural perspective to address the problem of truancy among tribal youth. Home visits and referrals to services and programs are essential elements of the tribe's plan for preventing and reducing truancy. The project's main objectives are to educate the community about the importance of addressing truant behavior early, to decrease the community's tolerance for truancy, and to build capacity for assessing the needs of truant youth, those at risk of truancy, and their families.
- The Tanana Chiefs Conference, Fairbanks, AK, is developing pilot youth courts in 14 tribal villages to address youth crime and related behaviors and to promote accountability and responsibility for youth actions among elders and peers. The youth courts are organized around tribal principles that incorporate culture and tradition in dealing with young people. The project is also drafting and adopting juvenile codes/ordinances for use by youth courts, developing content for youth court handbooks, and designing a training curriculum to help villages implement the youth court program.
- The Burns Paiute Indian Reservation in Harney County, a rural area of eastern Oregon, is using TYP funds to address alcohol and marijuana abuse, juvenile crime, and academic failure; improve tribal youth service delivery systems; and increase the availability and accessibility of community-based wraparound services for high-risk youth. The tribe also is working with parent volunteers and other members of the community to develop a comprehensive 3-year plan to combat the early onset of alcohol and drug use, reduce violence and criminal behavior, and prevent youth from dropping out of school.
- The Ysleta Del Sur Pueblo, located in an urban setting near El Paso, TX, is providing interventions for court-involved tribal youth and improving its tribal juvenile justice system. The pueblo's new home detention system reduces the need to place youth away from their families. The pueblo's community service program has been expanded to include traditional restitution, mentoring activities that involve police officers, diversion programs that apply auxiliary community policing concepts, greater supervision of youth on probation, and more activities to deter crime among court-involved youth.
- The Wampanoag Tribe, located in rural Aquinnah, MA, on the island of Martha's Vineyard, is establishing the Wampanoag Youth Program to engage at-risk youth in culturally appropriate activities. The program has targeted 41 tribal youth who have been referred by the juvenile court or who are considered to be at risk of entering the juvenile justice system. Activities will include alcohol and drug abuse prevention education and cultural events such as tribal powwows, nature walks, storytelling, and drumming and dance shows.
- The Poarch Band of Creek Indians, Atmore, AL, a rural reservation that encompasses four southern Alabama counties and Florida's Escambia County, is developing a project to address the needs of a target population of approximately 660 at-risk youth. The project will emphasize the incorporation of traditional tribal cultural teachings and will include delinquency prevention activities, an afterschool program, and intervention and prevention services in local schools.

This Bulletin highlights OJJDP's current activities in the five program areas listed on page 2 and briefly summarizes additional OJJDP activities that involve tribal communities.

Tribal Youth Program

Congress established TYP in 1999 to address the rising rate of juvenile crime in tribal communities, appropriating $10 million for the program in FY 1999, $12.5 million in FY 2000 and FY 2001, and $12.47 million in FY 2002.[3] Before 1999, OJJDP assisted AI/AN tribes through the passthrough of Formula Grants Program funds by the states, discretionary grant funds, and training and technical assistance. However, it did not have a program solely dedicated to the overall goals of preventing and controlling juvenile crime in AI/AN communities and improving tribal juvenile justice systems.

TYP's objectives are to:

- Provide prevention services to influence risk factors for delinquency.
- Provide interventions for court-involved youth.
- Improve tribal juvenile justice systems.
- Provide prevention programs that focus on alcohol and drugs.

In FY 2000, OJJDP awarded TYP grants totaling approximately $8 million to 38 tribal communities. Awards ranged from $73,352 to $498,475, based on the size of the AI/AN service population living on or near a particular reservation. A broad spectrum of tribal communities responded to the FY 2000 TYP solicitation—an indication that OJJDP is achieving its goal of working with tribal communities of various population sizes and geographic locations. The marked increase in the number of applications from Alaska and in first-time applicants for TYP funds further reflects the success of OJJDP's outreach efforts.

In FY 2001, OJJDP awarded grants totaling approximately $8 million to 30 AI/AN communities to develop programs to prevent and control juvenile delinquency in AI/AN communities and improve tribal juvenile justice systems. Applications were invited from federally recognized tribes and from corporations representing Alaska Native villages. Awards (for a 3-year grant period) varied depending on the size of the AI/AN service population living on or near a particular reservation.

In FY 2002, OJJDP awarded 43 grants through TYP. Although OJJDP issued a single solicitation to cover both TYP and the TYP Mental Health Project funding in FY 2002, applicants were required to submit separate applications for TYP (Part A) and Mental Health (Part B) funding. OJJDP received 68 Part A applications and 16 Part B applications. As in FY 1999–2001, eligible applicants included federally recognized tribes, consortiums of federally recognized tribes, and corporations that represent Alaska Native villages, and grantees were funded for a 3-year budget and program period.

The sidebar on page 2 presents examples of TYP-funded projects. The examples illustrate the diverse activities undertaken by grantees since the TYP program began in FY 1999.

TYP Mental Health Project

The TYP Mental Health Project was established in 2000 to promote mental health and substance abuse (alcohol and drug abuse) services for AI/AN youth and support juvenile delinquency prevention and intervention efforts that help tribes develop and implement culturally sensitive mental health programs. The project helps tribes provide a range of youth support services and programs that address the mental health and related needs of AI/AN youth and their families in various community settings (e.g., in schools, at violence prevention and healthcare treatment programs, in the juvenile justice system). The TYP Mental Health Project is part of the Mental Health and Community Safety Initiative for American Indian/Alaska Native Children, Youth, and Families, a federal initiative announced in 1999 and developed by the U.S. Departments of Education, Health and Human Services, the Interior, and Justice. Since FY 2000, this initiative has provided tribes easy-to-access help in developing innovative strategies to meet the mental health, behavior, substance abuse, and community safety needs of AI/AN youth and their families through a coordinated federal process.

The overall goal of the TYP Mental Health Project is to provide mental health diagnostic and treatment services to AI/AN youth who are involved in, or at risk of becoming involved in, tribal and/or state juvenile justice systems. The project's objectives are to:

- Provide mental health services for AI/AN youth at risk of delinquency.
- Provide interventions for court-involved tribal youth.
- Improve tribal juvenile justice systems.
- Provide alcohol and drug abuse counseling services.

In FY 2000, OJJDP awarded TYP Mental Health Project grants to six tribal communities to provide mental health treatment and services to AI/AN youth. The grants totaled nearly $1 million and ranged from $75,000 to $300,000, depending on the size of the AI/AN service population living on or near a particular reservation.

In FY 2001, OJJDP awarded TYP Mental Health Project grants totaling almost $950,000 to five tribal communities. Awards ranged from $125,000 to $300,000 (for a 3-year grant period), depending on the size of the total AI/AN service population living on or near a particular reservation. OJJDP also awarded five TYP Mental Health Project grants in FY 2002. (See sidebar on page 4 for a summary of FY 2002 grantees' activities.)

Comprehensive Indian Resources for Community and Law Enforcement Project

The CIRCLE Project, with the assistance of federal, state, and private partners, helps tribal communities develop comprehensive planning and funding infrastructures to fight crime, violence, and substance abuse more effectively. The CIRCLE Project is based on two key principles:

- Local leadership is important in developing and implementing efforts to control crime, violence, and drug abuse.
- A comprehensive approach (i.e., one that incorporates coordinated, multidisciplinary efforts) is needed to fight crime, violence, and drug abuse.

The CIRCLE Project complements and is supported by the federal Indian Country Law Enforcement Initiative (see endnote 3 for a description of this initiative). Central to the federal initiative and the CIRCLE Project is a commitment to improving the federal government's work with AI/AN communities. The CIRCLE Project, in conjunction with federal agencies,[4] serves tribes in three pilot sites: the Northern

TYP Mental Health Project: Activities of FY 2002 Grantees

- Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon, as part of a comprehensive working plan to improve the quality of tribal life, is focusing on juvenile drug and alcohol use and will provide related services to at-risk tribal youth ages 8–18 in an 11-county service area that encompasses the cities of Portland, Salem, and Eugene. The project will include a needs assessment to identify risk factors facing tribal youth and an evaluation of existing services. Planned activities include culturally appropriate parenting training, gender-specific programs, behavioral and psychological assessments, and a variety of therapies (e.g., narrative, sandtray, adventure-based, and family programs).
- Eastern Aleutian Tribes, Inc., a nonprofit organization providing healthcare services to seven rural communities in the Aleutians East Borough of Alaska, will improve the delivery of comprehensive mental health services and substance abuse treatment for tribal youth ages 12–20. The program seeks to improve access to appropriate interventions for court-involved youth and their families, including counseling for depression, anxiety, conduct disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other mental health problems; standardize intake assessments for youth who come into contact with local law enforcement; enhance alcohol and drug abuse counseling for youth; and provide appropriate training for service providers.
- The Mount Sanford Tribal Consortium, a tribal health organization serving two Athabascan Indian villages in the sparsely populated Copper River region in Alaska's interior, is revising and expanding mental health services to address risk factors related to delinquent behavior among tribal youth. All 48 tribal youth ages 5 to 17 are eligible to receive the expanded services, which are being developed by a coalition of tribal council members, other community members, and service providers. A youth counselor will be hired to diagnose and provide treatment for conduct disorder, post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, and other serious problems among referred youth.
- The Osage Nation Counseling Center, in Pawhuska, OK, is establishing an inpatient treatment center to provide a continuum of delinquency prevention and residential treatment services for at-risk males ages 13–18. The nearby city of Hominy has provided the facility, and the counseling center is collaborating with other State and tribal agencies to provide mental health services and alcohol/drug abuse treatment to court-referred youth. The program will focus on alcohol and drug abuse education, violence prevention, gang education, and counseling for individuals, families, and groups. Once youth have completed long-term counseling and treatment at the center, their care will continue through home visits by program staff.
- The Prairie Band Potawatomi Nation, located near Topeka, KS, is developing a mental health service program to prevent and reduce delinquent behavior among tribal youth ages 5 to 18 residing on the reservation, in surrounding rural Jackson County, and in the Topeka urban area. The program, which will serve 50 to 75 at-risk youth each year, will include crisis intervention, mental health screening, and counseling for suicidal behavior, depression, anxiety, conduct disorder, and other mental health problems.

Cheyenne Tribe in Lame Deer, MT; Oglala Sioux Tribe in Pine Ridge, SD; and Pueblo of Zuni in Zuni, NM. Participating tribes receive special consideration for technical assistance and training related to strategy development and implementation, and they are eligible to apply for funding for law enforcement, tribal courts, detention facilities, and youth programs.

DOJ's National Institute of Justice is overseeing an evaluation of the CIRCLE Project being conducted by the Harvard Project on American Indian Development at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government in Cambridge, MA. A draft report for Phase I of the evaluation, which covers the first 18 months of the project, was submitted in spring 2002 and is still being reviewed. Phase II of the evaluation began in December 2002 and will address the subsequent 30 months.

Training and Technical Assistance

For the past several years, OJJDP has provided training and technical assistance to tribal communities through American Indian Development Associates (AIDA) of Albuquerque, NM. The agency's two-pronged approach to training and technical assistance involves (1) helping TYP grantees implement their programs and (2) helping other AI/AN communities develop or enhance their juvenile justice systems.

AIDA responds to requests for training and technical assistance initiated by TYP grantees or program managers. AIDA determines the type of technical assistance or training to be provided to TYP grantees by reviewing each community's history and needs. In some cases, AIDA may need to provide training about concepts before changes in tribal juvenile justice systems can take place. For example, Indian nations that rely on customs and traditions may need to learn about American-style justice systems before they are ready to develop written policies and procedures. In other instances, nations that do not have jurisdiction over their youth may need help developing intergovernmental agreements to influence prosecution, adjudication, or disposition alternatives.

AIDA helps tribal communities that are not TYP grantees improve their juvenile justice systems and address issues of youth and wellness, community development, and program planning and development. In 2001, AIDA conducted 31 training and technical assistance projects for TYP grantees. In FY 2002, OJJDP competitively solicited applicants to continue providing training and technical assistance to TYP grantees and other tribal communities. In April 2003, the Native American Alliance Foundation was selected as the new provider.

Research and Evaluation

Since 1999, OJJDP has used TYP funds to support a number of research and evaluation activities designed to provide empirical evidence about juvenile justice and delinquency prevention policies and practices and their impact on tribal youth. In developing guidelines for TYP research and evaluation, OJJDP convened an American Indian focus group. This group developed three principles to guide TYP-funded research and evaluation activities. The group determined that research and evaluation should:

An Overview of Selected Tribal Research and Evaluation Activities

- The Michigan Public Health Institute in Okemos, MI, in partnership with the Native American Institute at Michigan State University, is helping five tribes evaluate programs being conducted with TYP grants.
- The College of Menominee Nation in Keshena, WI, is working with Menominee organizations to develop, demonstrate, and evaluate a culturally appropriate, community-based, family-centered, integrated approach to the prevention of delinquency among tribal youth ages 11–18.
- New Mexico State University in Las Cruces is conducting a study that examines delinquency and the legal processing of Native American juveniles in a Four Corners tribe during the past 11 years, taking into account changes in tribal resources during that time, such as the opening of a casino on the reservation.
- The Navajo Nation Judicial Branch in Window Rock, AZ, is conducting a comprehensive assessment of gang activity, the first such assessment undertaken by a tribal government, to identify approaches that can be adopted by tribes to deal with gangs.
- Building on the Navajo gang study, researchers at California State University in Sacramento are using ethnographic observation and interviewing community members and gang members to document and profile the youth gang experience in up to six tribal sites across the Nation.

More information on these projects can be found in the OJJDP Fact Sheet *OJJDP's Program of Research for Tribal Youth* (Fung and Wyrick, 2001).

- Provide useful, practical results that are relevant to the parties who are the focus of the research.
- Involve local community members in decisionmaking and implementation activities.
- Acknowledge and respect native customs, traditions, values, and history.

Tribal research and evaluation activities address a range of issues relating to juvenile justice and delinquency prevention efforts in tribal communities. (See sidebar on this page for a description of selected projects.)

OJJDP also supports two new research programs designed to help AI/AN communities develop and implement juvenile delinquency programs and improve tribal juvenile justice systems. These programs are described in the sections that follow.

The Tribal Youth Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation Program

The Tribal Youth Field-Initiated Research and Evaluation Program supports projects that focus on tribal youth and address child abuse and neglect, substance abuse, and indigenous approaches to juvenile justice. One such project, Understanding the Causes of and Responses to Pueblo Youth Crime and Violence, will award $200,000 to Sandoval Indian Pueblos, Inc., a consortium of five pueblos in Sandoval County, NM, to explore the causes of and responses to youth substance abuse and crime. The study will use secondary and archival data sources, youth surveys, and interviews of tribe members to assess the nature of juvenile delinquency in the pueblos. Another project, the Anishinaabek Juvenile Justice Study, will award approximately $200,000 to the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa to conduct a formative evaluation of the juvenile justice system on the Red Cliff Reservation. The evaluation will focus on the reservation's tribal court, tribal substance abuse programs, and Indian Child Welfare program.

The Longitudinal Study of Tribal Youth Risk and Resiliency

In 2002, OJJDP began supporting the Longitudinal Study of Tribal Youth Risk and Resiliency Using the Community Readiness Model (the Longitudinal Study), which will examine risk and protective factors for juvenile delinquency within the unique cultural and historical context of a tribal community. By emphasizing cultural and historical factors, the Longitudinal Study will significantly improve knowledge concerning individual, family, community, school, and peer factors that affect delinquency and resiliency among tribal youth. It will also promote the development of culturally appropriate research methods for use with tribal populations. The first 2 years of the Longitudinal Study will consist of a feasibility study (to plan for the actual longitudinal study). After the feasibility study has been completed, and depending on the availability of funds, OJJDP anticipates supporting the Longitudinal Study for up to 5 more years.

In April 2002, OJJDP awarded approximately $650,000 in the form of a cooperative agreement (for a 2-year project and budget period) to Colorado State University's Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research to administer and conduct the feasibility study. OJJDP will be actively involved in this important research project through close communication with the grantee, participation in initial site visits to eligible tribes being considered for participation in the study, and followup visits to participating sites.

Other Tribal Youth Initiatives

The five program areas described thus far in this Bulletin (TYP, the TYP Mental Health Project, the CIRCLE Project, training and technical assistance, and research and evaluation) focus specifically on tribal youth and communities. Tribal communities are active participants in a number of other OJJDP programs and initiatives as well. Tribal communities, for example, were among the grant recipients in several major OJJDP initiatives, including the Juvenile Mentoring Program, the Safe Schools/Healthy Students Initiative, the Drug-Free Communities Support Program, the Enforcing the Underage Drinking Laws Program, and CASA (the Court Appointed Special Advocate Initiative). OJJDP is also developing training support for tribal law enforcement officers. In 2001, the National Youth Gang Center (NYGC) implemented a new survey of youth gangs in AI/AN communities that measures the prevalence, composition, and activities of gangs in federally recognized tribes that had not previously been included in NYGC's annual National Youth Gang Survey of law enforcement agencies.

In December 2000, OJJDP published a special issue of its journal *Juvenile Justice* (Volume VII, Number 2) that focuses on the subject of preventing and combating delinquency among tribal youth. This

issue includes an interview with Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell of Colorado, an overview of OJJDP's Tribal Youth Program, and a discussion of the importance of cultural practices in delinquency prevention programs.

For Further Information

J. Robert Flores, Administrator for OJJDP, invites inquiries on OJJDP programs and activities. He can be reached at 202–307–5911.

Additional information on OJJDP tribal initiatives appears in the following OJJDP Fact Sheets: *OJJDP's Program of Research for Tribal Youth* (Fung and Wyrick, 2001); *Training and Technical Assistance for Indian Nation Juvenile Justice Systems* (Melton and Bird, 1999); *Tribal Court CASA: A Guide to Program Development* (Frey, 2002); *Tribal Youth Program* (Andrews, 1999); and *United National Indian Tribal Youth, Inc.* (Sagiri, 2001). These publications and others listed in the "References" section may be ordered from the Juvenile Justice Clearinghouse. Refer to the box on page 7 for information on how to order publications or obtain information from JJC.

For more information on OJJDP's tribal youth initiatives, contact:

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In March 2003, OJJDP launched a Web page (ojjdp.ncjrs.org/typ) devoted to tribal youth initiatives.

Endnotes

1. The terms "Indian tribe," "tribal," and "tribe(s)" mean "any Indian tribe, band, nation, or other organized group or community, including Alaska Native village or regional or village corporation, as defined in or established pursuant to the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act . . . which is recognized as eligible for the special programs and services provided by the United States to Indians because of their status as Indians" (25 U.S.C. § 450b(e)).

2. During 2000, the juvenile arrest rate for violent crime reached its lowest level in 14 years and the number of juvenile arrests in each category tracked by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in its Violent Crime Index (murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) fell (Snyder, in press).

3. TYP is part of the federal Indian Country Law Enforcement Initiative, a 4-year joint initiative of the U.S. Departments of Justice and the Interior to improve law enforcement and the administration of criminal and juvenile justice in Indian country. The initiative also addresses the need for additional resources to respond to crime in AI/AN communities, including increased funding for tribal police officers, courts, detention facilities, and prevention and intervention programs.

4. Partner agencies include the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of Tribal Justice, the Office of Justice Programs, and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services. The U.S. Attorney also plays a role in the CIRCLE Project, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the U.S. Department of the Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs contribute to project efforts through their involvement in the Indian Country Law Enforcement Initiative.

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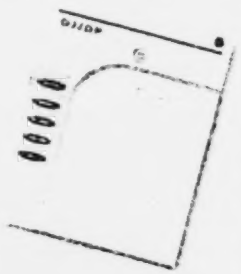

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